

MINUTES  
**HOUSE AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 26, 2022

**TIME:** 1:30 P.M.

**PLACE:** Room EW42

**MEMBERS:** Chairman Kauffman, Vice Chairman Andrus, Representatives Boyle, Kerby, Giddings, Marshall, Nichols, Hanks, Cannon, Moon, McCann, Toone, Ruchti, Mathias

**ABSENT/  
EXCUSED:** None

**GUESTS:** The sign-in sheet will be retained in the committee secretary's office; following the end of session the sign-in sheet will be filed with the minutes in the Legislative Library.

**Chairman Kauffman** called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Mathias** made a motion to approve the minutes of January 18, 2022, January 20, 2022, and January 24, 2022. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Jamey Higham**, CEO, Idaho Potato Commission (IPC), described challenges potato farmers are dealing with and gave an update on projects around the state. The water projects under consideration for funding are vital to the Idaho Potato Industry. State funding for potato research is critical in developing potato varieties which use less water, are heat tolerant, resistant to changing pest profiles and meet the expectations of consumers. Each action that can help lower costs, ease movement of product, and provide incentives to keep farming operations competitive is important to the Idaho Potato Industry.

**DOCKET NO. 29-0000-2100:** **Patrick Kole**, Vice President of Legal and Government Affairs, IPC, said there are no changes to the Rules since the last time they were before the Committee.

**MOTION:** **Rep. Marshall** made a motion to approve **Docket No. 29-0000-2100**. **Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Michael Parrella**, Dean, U of I, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs), reported on the Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension and CALs enrollment status, capital projects faculty and staff retention/turnover. The Seed Potato Germplasm facility in Moscow, Idaho, will triple seed potato production and create plantlets free from viruses and other diseases. The Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (CAFE) will be the country's largest and most advanced research center targeting the dairy and allied industries. CAFE will be a sustainable agriculture system focused on providing global solutions to ongoing issues facing agriculture, food, the environment and society. Dean Parrella introduced **Brent Olmstead**, and **John Wright**, and **Jenn Root**, and **Barbara Petty** from the University of Idaho, CALs.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

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Representative Kauffman  
Chair

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Jayne Feik  
Secretary